SUPPLEMENT TO THE BOMBAY COURIER.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1811.

(*Continued from the laſt Page*).

whoſe countenances nature had not imprinted the features of aſſaſsins.

On the fate of theſe malefactors, and on the dangerous tendency to themſelves of the aſſociation of which they were members, one obſervation preſents itſelf too important to be omitted at the cloſe of the melancholy details that we have felt it our duty to lay before the public. It will from hence appear, that men confederated for the commiſsion of crimes, can have no well grounded confidence in each other—not even when their compact is confirmed by oaths and cemented in blood. If this be admitted, and the hiſtory of every age and country confirms the truth of the obſervation, the inference is irreſiſtable, that all thoſe perſons who may, in future be invited to become members of ſuch confederacies, ſhould reſiſt ſuch invitations, as they would avoid the greateſt calamity; and all thoſe who may have been ſo far infatuated as to become members of ſuch ſocieties, ſhould, from this moment, and by one common conſent, deſiſt from taken another ſtep in furtherance of their objects. They muſt now ſee that they have ſtood on the brink of a frightful preciſice, and that another ſtep might have plunged them into that gulph which has overwhelmed their leſs fortunate aſſociates.

THE TIMES,—Dec. 24,

MEETING FOR THE RELIEF OF THE SUFFERERS IN RUSSIA.

Yeſterday, purſuant to notice given by public advertiſements, there was a Meeting at the Crown and Anchor, to conſider of affording relief to the ſuffering Ruſſians.

At half paſt one, his Royal Highneſs the Duke of York was called to the Chair.

Mr. S. Thornton then addreſſed his Royal Highneſs, and ſaid, that the occaſion which had called together the preſent Meeting, was one which muſt rouſe the beſt feelings of the people of this country. We had ſeen the forces of the greateſt part of Europe collected together for the purpoſe of invading Ruſſia, and we had ſeen that formidable invaſion repelled by the great and almoſt unparalled exertions of the Ruſſian nation. Thoſe exertions, however, and that ſucceſs, had been accompanied by the greateſt ſacrifices and ſufferings upon their part. The burning of Moſcow in particular had expoſed its numerous population to the ſevereſt privations. They had been driven from their habitations in the depth of winter, and remained without ſhelter or any adequate means of ſupport. When one conſidered the number of families who had been reduced to that ſituation in the defence of their country, it was impoſſible not to ſympathiſe deeply in their diſtreſſes. To afford relief to this accumulation of ſuffering; the firſt characters in the Ruſſian empire had come forward by voluntary ſubſcription. The example had been ſet by the Royal Family, and was generally followed by all the Nobles of the land, and thoſe of exalted rank and conſideration in the country, Among the many noble donations of this ſort which had been made, he could not forbear from mentioning one anecdote which had come to his knowledge, of the Princeſs Gallitzin. She was poſſeſſed of great eſtates, and the perſons upon it had ſuffered ſeverely from thoſe ſacrifices which it was neceſſary to make, and from the devaſtations of the war. She had moſt nobly ſent word to all who were on her eſtates, that ſhe would not accept of any rent, or pecuniary advantage, from her eſtates, till the perſons upon them were reinſtated in the condition that they were in before the French invaſion, *(great applauſe.)* He thought it unneceſſary for him to make any particular call upon their feelings on the preſent occaſion, when he recollected how they had acted on all ſimilar occaſions, and how generouſly they had contributed relief to the Spaniſh and Portugueſe ſufferers. He thought it a circumſtance highly flattering to the preſent cauſe, that his Royal Highneſs had condeſcended to take the chair upon the occaſion, and ſet that example which he truſted would be generally followed. He did not think it neceſſary to take up any more of their time, but ſhould immediatly proceed to read the Reſolutions which were to be ſubmitted to them.—*See Reſolution.)*

Mr. Serjeant Pell ſeconded the reſolutions. He ſaid that he came into the room almoſt by accident, and had not expected to have ſeen ſo many illuſtrious perſons aſſembled. In conſidering the occaſion for which this meeting had been held, he muſt ſay that it was impoſſible to contemplate the events which had lately paſſed in Ruſſia, without wonder and delight. The wealth of England, he thought, could not be better employed than in the relief of diſtreſſes which individuals in Ruſſia were ſuffering under, from the noble exertion and willing ſacrifices which they had made in the defence of their country. It muſt be recollected, alſo, that the Ruſsians had not only ſaved their own country, but that they had alſo ſaved Europe. (*applauſe.*) He truſted that no nation knew better than our's how to appreciate their great exertions, or would naturally feel a ſtronger ſympathy for thoſe ſacrifices and diſtreſſes which were produced by thoſe exertions. He was ſure that the propoſed ſubſcription would be conſidered a national cauſe, and that the example would pervade all ranks and claſſes, from the Prince to the peaſant. He truſted that thoſe in humbler circumſtances would contribute in proportion to their ability as well as the more opulent according to their wealth. He was convinced that the ſame principle would appear in every claſs of ſociety; and in fact, it was the principle from which ſuch contribution proceeded, which would make the gift valuable. While we were aſſiſting Ruſsia, we were ſerving England. He was ſure that the work in which they were engaged was founded upon the beſt principles of patriotiſm, and it required little effort to ſtimulate the feelings of Engliſhmen to the ſupport of a cauſe which muſt of itſelf call forth the beſt ſympathies of the country.

Mr. Wilbert ree had no other doubt of the propriety of immediately adopting the reſolutions propoſed, than that he thought that ſufficient notice had not been given, and that it was not as generally known as he could have wiſhed, that this meeting was to have been held. He himſelf had heard of it only a few days ago, and his attendance this day was almoſt accidental, as he had been going to another place when he was told that there was to be a meeting this day. He doubted whether it might not be better to poſtpone the preſent reſolutions untill a longer notice ſhould convene a much more numerous meeting. Notwithſtanding the illuſtrious and diſtinguiſhed perſons whom he ſaw preſent, yet he thought it might, perhaps, produce a better effect, if the firſt meeting for this object was very numerous, and that thoſe perſons had notice of it who were accuſtomed to take the lead upon ſimilar occaſions. The cauſe for which they were met had the moſt powerful claims, not only on the benevolent feelings, but on the juſtice of the Engliſh nation. To thoſe whom Providence had placed in high ſituations, and given the means of affording relief to others he muſt conſider ſuch a claim upon their benevolence was a claim on their juſtice. The cauſe was certainly one, which ſtrongly appealed to the beſt feelings of this country; and he muſt be permitted to ſay, that there was nothing more becoming the exalted rank of his Royal Highneſs, (the Duke of York,) nothing more congenial to the feelings of his illuſtrious family, than to be employed in the work of leſſening the miſeries of the diſtreſſed. (*Applauſe.*) The laſt time that he had ſeen his Royal Highneſs was in a ſimilar ſituation, when he had taken the Chair at a meeting convened for the purpoſe of affording relief to the wants of his own countrymen. The meaſures then reſolved upon had been the means of affording conſiderable relief to thoſe ſufferings: and he thought it right to mention this circumſtance, that it might not be ſaid that the diſtreſſes of ſtrangers were attended to, while the ſufferings of our own countrymen were forgotten. (*Applauſe*) He thought to come forward generouſly on the preſent occaſion would be natural to the feelings of Engliſhmen, and that it would be honourable to their character. Beſides the feeling of benevolence to the ſufferers, we muſt conſider, that their ſufferings had been perhaps our releaſe from ſufferings, (*applauſe,*)—their ſacrifices perhaps the ſalvation of this country. He would ſay more: the conduct and ſufferings of the Ruſſians in the preſent year had already, in ſome degree, increaſed the comfort of every manufacturer's family in the kingdom. Such being the true ſtate of the caſe, benevolence and ſympathy towards thoſe ſufferers were natural, and required by juſtice. We ſhould ſhew the world, that commerce, on the ſcale with this country purſues it, does not narrow the heart and contract its ſympathies, but that it enlarges the mind, and extends thoſe charities by which the different nations of the earth are bound together as brethren. Our conduct, on this occaſion, ſhould contradict the falſe aſperſions of our enemies, that commerce has made us ſo debaſed, and ſelfiſh, that we can only feel for our own immediate intereſts. When upon ſuch ſhort notice, he ſaw ſuch diſtinguiſhed perſons as were then in the room, he thought it evident that the Princes and Nobles of the Land were impatient to expreſs their ſenſe of the gallant conduct of thoſe men who had made ſuch great ſacrifices; and their determination to alleviate, as much as was in their power, the diſtreſſes which flowed from them. Under ſuch circumſtances, he could not avoid feeling a confident hope, that what would be done would be honorable to this country, and would be moſt acceptable to thoſe for whoſe relief it was intended.

The Reſolutions were then, put, and carried unanimouſly.

Mr. Thornton apologiſed for the unavoidable ſhortneſs of the notice, and ſtated, that a Meeting had been already convened in the City, and that upon that account it was thought better not to poſtpone the Meeting to a later period.

He afterwards moved the thanks of the Meeting to His Royal Highneſs the Duke of York. This motion was carried unanimouſly.

His Royal Highneſs returned thanks, and ſtated, that he was authoriſed by the Prince Regent, to put his name at the head of the ſubſcription for 2000*£*. (*Applauſe.*)

A Committee was then appointed to manage the ſubſcriptions, and tranſmit them to Ruſſia.

THEATRES.

Mr. Coates, who has obtained ſo much celebrity throughout the empire by his theatrical exhibitions, and particularly by his performance of the hero of the tragedy of *Romeo and Juliet*, and who has added to his diſtinguiſhed notoriety by his curricle, and his cocks and his motto of "while I live I will crow," gave a bumper benefit to ſome body laſt night at the little Theatre in the Haymarket. The principal piece announced for the entertainment of the night was the tragedy of *The fair Penitent*, in which Mr. Coates, under the denomination of an *Amateur of faſhion*, was to play the part of the gallant gay *Lothario*, with the promiſe of a further contribution to the delights of the audience in the recitation of a compoſition upon hobbies, between the acts of the afterpiece (*Raiſing the Wind*), in which compoſition the hobby of the "Amateur of faſhion" himſelf was not forgotten. The Amateur of faſhion" would, we have reaſon to think, have been gratified by the preſence of a very faſhionable company in the boxes if the outrageous impatience of tag rag, and bob-tail to ſhare the delight of beholding him with their betters, had not triumphed over every effort of the box-keepers to preſerve the property of the ſeats beſpoken; and almoſt on the inſtant on the opening of the doors, filled every box to a degree ſcarcely ever before exemplified, except in the inſtance of the firſt appearance of Roſcius Betty when he was a child. The Earl of Darnley, with a large party, was, however, ſufficiently fortunate to gain an eſtabliſhment in the fronts of the two ſtage boxes on the Prince's ſide; and a very few more were able to preſerve a part of their rights, by compromiſing with the intruders. The general impatience for the hero's appearance manifeſted itſelf immediately in an appropriate uproar of crowing, cackling, quacking, clucking & all the variety the vocal harmonies of the pond, the poultry yard, and the hen-rooſt. In vain the orcheſtra fiddled, "Rule Britainnia; and God ſave the King" was in danger of being hiſſed for a Scotch reel or an Iriſh jig, for each of which it which it was alternately miſtaken amidſt the din that we have deſcribed. At length the hero appeared; but the delight of ſeeing him was ſo great, and the expreſſion of it ſo loud and general, that it was impoſſible to hear. We can, therefore, do the office of critics only, by making the eye interpret for the ear—and, really, we muſt ſay, the Pantomime was ſo rich, that Punch himſelf can hardly be compared with it. Never was a tragedy ſo fruitful in mirth; in the production of which Mr. Coates was not a little helped out by a fat, good humoured *Caliſta*, in a maroon velvet gown, with an arch trick of the eye, who galloped over her part, as if ſhe was anxious, however pleaſed with the preſent treat, to get at the good things that were to follow. The other performers, particularly the husband of this *Caliſta*, were alſo admirably ſuited to the occaſion. With their united aid the tragedy was performed in little more than an hour of acting amidſt continued peals of laughter, and cries of ſilence, and all the varieties of ſound of the feathery choir, of which we have always occaſion to make honorable mention in ſpeaking of Mr. Coates's performances. We muſt here take the liberty to remonſtrate a little with the frequenters of the Theatres on Mr. Coates's nights of performance. The total want of moderation in their raptures really deſtroys their own enjoyment; as well as that of others, who would take the rich treat with temperance, and not drown it with vociferations of exceſs. In Mr. Coates's love ſcenes, for example, we can only deſcant upon the unutterable things that he looked. "What might we not have to ſay, if we had heard *the beaſt* ſpeak them?" as Æſchines ſaid, in pronouncing the inexpreſſible eulogy of his rival orator, Demoſthenes. We truſt this remonſtrance will be attended to, on Mr. Coates's next performance which we have reaſon to hope will take place ſoon; as there was ſomething of a promiſe of the exertion of his powers in favour of the ſuffering Ruſsians, in the diſſertation upon the hobbies, ſpoken after many impatient demands in the place where it was promiſed, between the acts of the after-piece. The hero came out on this occaſion in the dreſs of a dragoon, with a little addition of fancy in a hair tower cap, ſomething about the ſize of Grimaldi's muff, cut in two, with a regulation feather ſtuck at the ſide; without boots and ſpurs, for the abſence of which he made an apology, and in the place of which he exhibited white pantaloons and ſilk ſtockings, and ſhoes with brilliant buckels. He was without whiſkets alſo; but, for this he made no apology—probably recollecting the ſort of compliments that had been beſtowed at his laſt performance on thoſe of his friend Baron Geramb. The diſſertation upon hobbies appeared to be partly in proſe and partly in poetry, the ſtyle of which was original and well ſuited to the ſpeaker. It alluded to the ſentiments of Shakeſpeare and Sterne on the ſame ſubject, touched on the hobbies of Statesmen, courtiers, warriors, and, laſtly, of the hobby of the Amateur of faſhion himſelf, which is, in plain proſe, "to play for the benefit of the widow and the orphan, and of our brave allies the Ruſſians." From theſe laſt words we are led to hope for another & an early appearance of Mr. Coates; for we do not underſtand that the Ruſſians are to have any ſhare in the benefits of the laſt night's receipts. At the cloſe of the delivery of this piece of the hobbies, there was a very long and liberal adminiſtration of applauſe, and a loud call for an encore, which was ſo agreeable to Mr. Coates, that although he had previouſly reſiſted a ſimilar application for a repetition of the dying ſcene, he came out again and ſpoke a couple of lines perhaps forgotten before, the object of which was to warn the Ladies againſt fortune hunters. The following lines may ſerve as a ſpecimen of this piece of *The Hobbies*:—

"Lord Wellington's hobby, in the time of wars.
Is breaches, ambuſcades, and glorious ſcars.
But when grim war no more his trade is,
Why then his Lordſhip's hobby is the Ladies."

The Theatre was empty at half-paſt nine and we underſtand that the performance of the laſt act of the afterpiece finiſhed ſoon after the houſe was cleared. This fact may ſuggeſt the moſt effectual means of ſhortening the long pantomines that now keep the people till after midnight at Drury-lane and Covent-garden.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER, DUBLIN DECEMBER 12.

BREACH OF PROMISE OF MARRIAGE.

C. KELLY, SPINSTER, *v.* B. GANNON, ESQ.

This intereſting trial, which was heard before the Lord Chief Baron and a Special Jury, laſted the entire day, and afforded a rich treat to a crowded audience.

The plaintiff, Miſs Kelly, is a Lady of reſpectable connections and good education, aged about thirty five years. Mr. Gannon is a wealthy wholeſale linen merchant, highly reſpected, reſiding at Bridgeſtreet, aged about fifty-five years, a widower, with many children. In November, 1810, he ſought for a Lady who might preſide over his family, and govern his houſehold—who might at once act as his houſekeeper, and partake of his table. Miſs Kelly had, in earlier life, known days of plenty, but her parents had left her, the eldeſt of five children, with ſlender means of ſubſiſtence. She thenceforth generouſly applied herſelf to the advancement of her wards; ſhe equipped her two brothers for an adventure to America, where they have ſettled and proſpered; ſhe procured decent ſettlements in marriage for her two ſiſters—but was leſs ſucceſsful in her own affairs. Not willing to eat the bread of idleneſs, ſhe laudably betook herſelf to trade; & aided by the friends of her family, ſhe opened a haberdaſhery ſhop in the thriving town of Tipperary. But ſoon ſhe felt the ills of inexperience, and of too generous a heart. In ſhort, ſhe became inſolvent; but, unlike other inſolvents, ſhe fairly diſtributed the produce of her remaining property, with even hand, amongſt her creditors, reſerving not a ſhilling to herſelf. Again thrown upon the world, ſhe accepted the ſeaſonable invitation of a female friend, to an hoſpitable dwelling, near Tharles. After two years, ſhe learned that her brother was about to conſign a valuable cargo of goods to Dublin for her uſe, as the fruit of his American acquiſitions. She repaired to Dublin, and, after months of anxiety, ſhe learned, that the ſuſpenſion of intercourſe with America was to diſappoint her new hopes, and that the ſhipment muſt be poſtponed. Her fortitude did not yet forſake her.—This well minded young woman, thus grievouſly ſported with by perverſe fortune, preferred induſtry to mendicancy, and was not too proud to deſcend to a ſituation of honeſt livelihood. A Lady of her acquaintance recommended the houſe of Mr. Gannon, as a refuge from want, and a comfortable home. She became his houſekeeper.

Mr. Gannon was ſeized with a tedious illneſs, from which he recovered with difficulty. Miſs Kelly nurſed him during this period, and ſoothed his pains by her unaffected attentions and kind readineſs in executing his orders. He became pleaſed with her ſociety, as he diſcovered her merits and attraction upon longer acquaintance. In fine, he thought her an eligible wife. In Auguſt, 1811, he propoſed marriage to her. She candidly remonſtrated with him upon the apparent imprudence of ſuch a meaſure. She told him of her debts, ſtill about *£*. 600. He anſwered, that his fortune was large, and he would compound the debts. She delicately hinted other difficulties, about his children and health; but he was prepared for all ſuch objections, and obviated them at once.—She then requeſted him at leaſt, to defer it till after he ſhould take a country excurſion, in which he might at once confirm his recovered health, become acquainted with her relatitives, and judge of their reſpectability. To this he at length acceded, and ſet out upon an excurſion of ſome weeks, accompanied by his eldeſt ſon, a young Gentleman, apparently about 18 years to whom he imparted his purpoſe.—He viſited Caſhel, Kilkenny, Carlow and other places—dined with her brother—drank tea with her ſiſter; became intimate in their ſociety—amuſed himſelf in water-parties on the Barrow—wrote Miſs Kelly letters of eloquent paſſion; and the enamoured touriſt returned to Bridge-ſtreet, about the end of September, 1811.

Theſe letters contained deciſive proofs of the promiſe of marriage, which proved the ground of the preſent action. We ſhall give only a few extracts.

"Caſhel, September 7, 1812.

"I have the pleaſure of informing my

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very dear Kitty, that her G is landed ſafe here, and well, thanks to Providence! We are as comfortable as poſſible with your ſiſter. Hope to ſet off for Clonmel on Monday: thence to Callan and Kilkenny, where I will expect an anſwer to this. We dined here yeſterday at your brother-in-law's—had ſome friends with us—was very pleaſant—Miſs M. and her brother of the party. Our buſineſs I mentioned to G.—[his ſon George]—a few days ago, which gave him all the pleaſure poſſible.

"I long much, be aſſured, to ſee you—hope you take care of yourſelf for the ſake of your dear G.

"Adieu to my darling Kitty.—Ever, ever, ever yours.

"B. G."

A SECOND LETTER IN THE SAME STRAIN.

"Kilkenny, Sept. 15, 1811.

"I take up a very bad pen to inform my ſoul's delight of my arrival here, ſafe and well, on Friday laſt; Need I ſay, I long for the day that will bring me to my dearly love Kitty; I take very good care of myſelf—and I beg you'll make your mind eaſy about me; you are mine. I hope the time will ſoon come that I'll be yours, my love."

The remainder of this letter, and other letters read, preſented a ludicrous mixture of fondneſs and attention to buſineſs—of raptures and humourous common place, which called forth peals of laughter during the recitation.

The treaty continued with every publicity—pictures exchanged, and clothes ordered; but about Eaſter laſt it wholly broke off, and Mr. Gannon poſitively refuſed to fulfil the awful contract thus entered into with the unfortunate Miſs Kelly, who was under the painful neceſſity of bringing the preſent action.

The evidence for the plaintiff conſiſted of Mr. Gannon's letters; alſo of the Rev. Richard Fitzgerald, the pariſh prieſt; Mr. Jonas Scott, one of the ſociety of Friends; and Mr. George Gannon, the eldeſt ſon of the defendant. Upon their cloſe examination it appeared, that the defendant had told them that he had made the promiſe to Miſs Kelly, only upon condition that her debts ſhould be compounded; and the witneſſes ſeemed entirely of opinion, that the intended marrirge would have been groſsly imprudent in a man of the defendant's age and indifferent conſtitution.

The defence admitted Miſs Kelly's merits and excellent conduct, but reſted upon the evidence of three medical gentlemen, reſpecting the defendant's infirmities.

However, as "Doctors will differ," theſe witneſſes left the queſtion ſtill doubtful.

Dr. Perceval had attended him from November, 1809, to June, 1812, when Mr. Gannon recovered, and the Doctor's viſits then ceaſed. The Doctor gave his evidence with peculiar phraſeology; ſtated his different preſcriptions—the ingredients, mercury, digitalis, &c. the diet uſed, the occaſional ſymptoms, with as perfect technicality as if environed by all the ſcience of Edinburgh.

Mr. Goold. "Well, Doctor, I dare ſay you doſed this old gentleman to his hearts's content?"

Doctor.—"Probably, Sir. but not more than I thought neceſſary."

Mr. Goold.—"Pray, Doctor, had he not a ſevere dropſy?"

Doctor.—"Did I not already tell you, Sir, that he had anaſarcous ſymtoms all along?"

Mr. Goold.—"Yes, Doctor; but the Jury, being moſtly of Aldermen, did not underſtand one half of what you ſaid"

However, the Doctor ſtated candidly, that he did not think that marriage would neceſſarily be projudicial to Mr. Gannon—poſsibly it might prove otherwiſe.

Dr. Colles was leſs prolix, but appeared to think marriage might prove fatal to the defendant.

Mr. Halliday, an apothecary, went a ſtep farther, and was decidedly hoſtile to the marriage, without a particle of doubt reſpecting the conſequences.

The Chief Baron, in charging the Jury, conſidered the promiſe of marriage as ſufficently proved by the letters. As to the condition of Miſs Kelly's compounding with the creditors, it was natural that Mr. Gannon ſhould give it out in that way, in order to obviate any difficulties in the way of ſuch compoſition, ſo as that he ſhould afterwards have the leſs to pay; but he remarked that no ſuch condition was ſtipulated by his letters. Next, if the defendant had ſince, by the act of God, fallen into a ſituation unfit for his marriage, he thought it a bar to the action; but the Jury were to decide between the Doctors upon this queſtion. As for damages, they ſhould give Miſs Kelly ſuch a ſum, as would be ſufficient to compenſate for the loſs of ſuch a huſband; and accordingly the meaſure muſt reſt wholly with their judgment.

The Jury, after half an hour's conſultation, returned with a verdict for plaintiff—£150 damages, and coſts of ſuit.

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